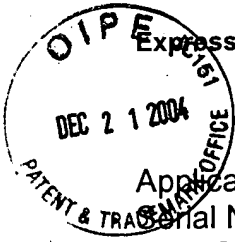


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Express Mail No. EV 544917832 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Robert A. Holton

Art Unit 1625

Serial No. 10/673,897

Filed September 29, 2003

Confirmation No. 1974

For PREPARATION OF SUBSTITUTED ISOERINE ESTERS USING METAL  
ALKOXIDES AND BETA-LACTAMS

Examiner Ba K. Trinh

December 21, 2004

**AMENDMENT B**

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,

SIR:

In response to the Office action mailed September 21, 2004, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this paper.

**Conclusion** is on page 5 of this paper.